Affiliated Utes To Draw $370,000 On Monday

A total of 490 members of the Affiliated Utes, which constitute the roll of the mixed blood Ute Indians, next Monday will be $1,500 richer than they are today. On Monday, April 22, $735,000 will be distributed among this group of people who have one half or less Ute Indian blood.

According to Mrs. Lula Murdock, member of the business committee of the Affiliated Utes, the $1500 payment is known as a cash distribution, and is a part of the $30,000,000 settlement the federal government made on behalf of the Ute Indian tribe in 1951. Also included in the payment will be a portion of local money earned from oil royalities, leases and loans made by the tribe.

Divided Assets

When the Ute tribe voted to divide their assets over a year ago, approximately 27 per cent of the total assets of the tribe, which included money in the bank and in custody of the U. S. Treasury Dept., went to the mixed bloods. Everything except lands have been divided, and this phase of the division should be effected in the near future.

According to Mrs. Murdock, before money can be paid the members of the group, approval must first come from the agency superintendent, then ratified by the area office at Phoenix and last by the Department of Interior and the Treasury Department in Washington.

All money owned by the Affiliated Utes is in the custody of the Treasury Department in Washington, and will probably remain there until other arrangements are made by the parties inviloved.

Money For Children

Each minor child will draw an equal share of the money to be allocated. However, unless a child under the legal age has a definite use for his money, such as gaining an education, it will go into a savings account, where it will remain until such time as he is ready to spend his money in an approved way. Mrs. Murdock reported that a minor's money could be invested in a home, providing the property were deeded to him.

Payments next Monday will be made to members of the group at the agency office in Ft. Duchesne.